

Standard German

<https://pwsmith.github.io/multivaluation/dbcoord/>

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1 Overview

Language family:	Indo-European (Germanic)
Countries:	Germany, Austria, Switzerland
Number of speakers:	90-105 million
Agreement features:	number, person
Attested word orders:	SV
Coordination types:	and, or

(The data were entered by a native speaker via an online survey.)

2 Patterns for number

2.1 Coordination with “and”

2.1.1 SV order

Pattern: The number on the verb is plural in all cases.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (1) Der Junge und der Mann rennen.
the.SG boy.SG and the.SG man.SG run.3PL
‘The boy and the man run.’
- (2) a. Die Jungs und der Mann rennen.
the.PL boy.PL and the.SG man.SG run.3PL
‘The boys and the man run.’
b. Der Junge und die Männer rennen.
the.SG boy.SG and the.PL man.PL run.3PL
‘The boy and the men run.’
- (3) Die Jungs und die Männer rennen.
the.PL boy.PL and the.PL man.PL run.3PL
‘The boys and the men run.’

2.2 Coordination with “or”

2.2.1 SV order

Pattern: The number on the verb is plural in all cases.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (4) Der Junge oder der Mann rennen.
the.SG boy.SG or the.SG man.SG run.3PL
‘The boy or the man run.’
- (5) a. Die Jungs oder der Mann rennen.
the.PL boy.PL or the.SG man.SG run.3PL
‘The boys or the man run.’
b. Der Junge oder die Männer rennen.
the.SG boy.SG or the.PL man.PL run.3PL
‘The boy or the men run.’

- (6) Die Jungs oder die Männer rennen.
 the.PL boy.PL or the.PL man.PL run.3PL
 ‘The boys or the men run.’

3 Patterns for person

3.1 Coordination with “and”

3.1.1 SV order

Pattern: In all cases person is resolved to 1st/3rd person plural. (Note: 1st and 3rd person plural are syncretic.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1/3pl	1/3pl
2	1/3pl		
3	1/3pl		

Examples:

- (7) a. Du und ich rennen.
 you and I run.1/3PL
 ‘You and I run.’
 b. Ich und du rennen.
 I and you run.1/3PL
 ‘I and you run.’
- (8) a. Wir und die rennen.
 we and they run.1/3PL
 ‘We and they run.’
 b. Die und wir rennen.
 they and we run.1/3PL
 ‘They and we run.’

3.2 Coordination with “or”

3.2.1 SV order

Pattern: In all cases person is resolved to 1st/3rd person plural. (Note: 1st and 3rd person plural are syncretic.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1/3pl	1/3pl
2	1/3pl		
3	1/3pl		

Examples:

- (9) a. Du oder ich rennen.
 you or I run.1/3PL
 ‘You or I run.’

- b. Ich oder du rennen.
I or you run.1/3PL
'I or you run.'
- (10) a. Wir oder die rennen.
we or they run.1/3PL
'We or they run.'
- b. Die oder wir rennen.
they or we run.1/3PL
'They or we run.'